JULY 5, 1775. THE NUMBER 57.

VIRGINIA GAZETTE,

OR THE

NORFOLK INTELLIGENCER.

UNI AEQUUS VIRTUTI ATQUE EJUS AMICIS. ——HOR.

To Mr. JOSEPH JONES,

SIR,

I EMBRACE the only opportunity you ever gave me, of thanking you for pulling off the maſque in your repeated attempts to injure me, and for ſubmitting your accuſation fairly to the tribunal of the impartial public. Had your conduct been equally open on a late occaſion, I have reaſon to believe the Convention of North-Carolina, would not have been led, by the warmth of their zeal for the glorious cauſe of liberty, to have imputed to me INTENTIONS foreign to my heart and deſtructive of my intereſt, and much leſs to have cenſured me for theſe, with a ſeverity due only to actual guilt. But as this letter is intended for the public, ſuffer me here to do juſtice to many reſpectable members of the Convention, who were willing to accept of my conformity to the aſſociation; who diſapproved the ſeverity of the cenſure; and who, knowing my ſentiments, continue to think favourably of my affection to the cauſe of American liberty. Let me alſo expreſs my obligation to the people of Currituck, and committee of Paſquotank, for the teſtimony they have borne of my conduct, which muſt have weight with the publick in my favour; and let them be aſſured that it ſhall be my continued endeavour, to juſtify to the world the opinion they entertain of me; and I ſhall ever think myſelf under great obligations to certain members of the committee who, forgetting private differences, and diſregarding your malicious endeavours to prejudice them againſt my conduct at the Convention, enquired into the circumſtances of the affair with a judicious and manly freedom, and concurred in determining to bear public teſtimony in my behalf, notwithſtanding the arts that were uſed to diſſuade them from this by ſome members, who at the ſame time acknowledged, that diſregarding the ſentence of the Convention, they approved of my conduct, ſhould have acted as I did, and were ready to ſubſcribe a declaration, equally favourable to me, in their private capacities. And as about two to one of the members preſent, concurred in publiſhing their ſentiments of my conduct as a committee, it is but reaſonable to infer that had they all attended, there would have been a proportionable majority in favour of the meaſure; inſtead of 22 to 14 againſt it as you inſinuate in your nota bene.

I am now to anſwer your ſtrictures bearing date the 15th of May, and publiſhed in the Norfolk Gazette of the 15th of June; where it is evident that either your CONFESSION or your LAST WORDS cannot be truth; nor do I believe it poſſible for you to reconcile them in your DYING SPEECH. In the firſt you ſay, "that you heard me offer to ſubſcribe the aſſociation;" in the laſt, "that ſome of the members propoſed that I might ſign" and that I only "ſeemed to agree to it." Here is an evident contradiction; evaſions will not do before the bar of the public; and your acknowledgment "that you did tell the committee ſomething to that effect," hath drawn the rope harder round your own neck; you have kicked the ſtool from under you, and rendered it impoſſible for your friends to cut you down from the ignominious ſituation, in which you are expoſed; for, were your veracity unimpeached amongſt your neighbours, yet the weight of evidence which is againſt you, muſt lead the public what to think of your regard to truth, and to recollect the proverb that a certain kind of men "had need of good memories."

You inſinuate that I withdrew immediately after having refuſed to ſign "the journal of the Continental Congreſs" which you ſay ſome of the members propoſed: Here you contradict yourſelf again, as a member of the Convention, for in the ſtate, previous to the reſolve wherein you cenſure me, you have declared, that it was the aſſociation approved of by the Continental Congreſs, which I refuſed to ſign and thereupon withdrew. But in juſtice to the Convention I muſt declare, that I did not believe a member thereof, yourſelf excepted, was capable of propoſing that I, who was not a delegate to the Continental Congreſs, ſhould ſign the "journal" of that reſpectable body. The circumſtances and motives of my withdrawing, are publiſhed and ſupported by teſtimony, which hath not been contradicted; as to your objections, the Preſs is open — try whether they will be treated with leſs contempt by the impartial world, than they met with from the committee of Paſquotank, when ſtated by you to them on the 19th of April.

You ſay that from the "common ſtream of my "behaviour you believe I never intended to ſign "at any event, and that you are of the ſame opini- "on ſtill:" Your opinion can have but little weight with the public. — The impartial will expect facts, whereon to found their judgement of me, and thoſe, who are acquainted with you, will not be very ready to adopt your opinion of the man, to whom your hatred is ſo notorious —But ſurely it ill becomes you, who have been accuſed before the committee of obſervation, for an actual violation of the 9th article of the aſſociation, in ſelling gunpowder at a moſt extravagant price, which accuſation is ſupported by undoubted teſtimony — it ill becomes you, I ſay, who have violated the aſſociation, notwithſtanding you highly approve of it, to find fault with me, that have ſtrictly conformed to it, though I did not highly approve of it. — Read the reſolution of the preſent Congreſs, bearing date the 27th of May; obſerve, that no more is required than conformity to the aſſociation; compare the prudence of the Congreſs in this, and the humanity of the other parts of that reſolve, with your own temper, which has, in the cool hours of reflection, endeavoured to execute a puniſhment, the condemnation to which, was ſcarce excuſable on the ſcore of ſudden paſſion, reverberated from boſom to boſom in a popular aſſembly.

You ſeem to exult at having diſcovered my behaviour to be equivocal and diſingenuous about the 28th of April, as if that would vindicate you for concurring to cenſure me, on account of a ſimilar charge about the beginning of the month, whether that charge was well founded or not. Are you ignorant that a crime committed, ſubſequent to an unjuſt judgment, will by no means extenuate that injuſtice? If you wiſh to vindicate yourſelf to the world for concurring in the cenſure, follow the rules preſcribed by the Congreſs; publiſh the truth of the caſe, the particulars of that diſingenuous and equivocal behaviour, which manifeſted my intentions to be inimical to the cauſe of American liberty, and which warrants you to declare me, a "peſt of ſociety, a tool of miniſterial vengeance and an USURPER OF ALL GOOD;" and which, I preſume you think, will vindicate the fruitleſs attempts to ſtimulate the people in theſe counties, to tar, feather and burn me, together with my property, as a ſacrifice to your implacable reſentment. To what purpoſe, but to irritate people at a diſtance to commit ſome act of violence on me, when opportunity ſhould ſerve, have malicious reports been ſpread, "that I "had induced the people in this county to acknow- "ledge, in a petition to the King, that we were will- "ing to pay whatever taxes the parliament ſhould "impoſe on us. Declaring the acts of the Conti- "nental Congreſs unjuſt and tyrannical — and that "I had actually raiſed and embodied a great num- "ber of men, ready to act as government ſhould "direct." You have denied being the author of theſe "attempts and reports;" they are aſcribed to you notwithſtanding, and I think I am furniſhed with ſuch evidence, as will vindicate a legal proſecution, as ſoon as our ſuperior courts of juſtice are opened. Other ſatisfaction you have refuſed on account of your wife and children.

Let me now examine my behaviour about the 28th of April which, you alledge, was equivocal and diſingenuous; you have deſcended to particulars, and thereby put it in my power to expoſe the falſehood of your charge. It is true that five members of the Convention have declared to the world, "that they heard me offer to ſubſcribe a promiſe, that I would conform to the Continental aſſociation, but many members inſiſting that I ſhould ſubſcribe a declaration that I highly approved of it, and threatening to withdraw, if I was indulged with leave to ſign any other declaration than this, occaſioned my withdrawing from the Convention, on which the vote of cenſure paſſed againſt me" The freeholders of Currituck, in their publication of the 25th of April, are evidently ſpeaking of this declaration of highly approving, &c. when they declare it inconſiſtent with their ideas of freedom, for repreſentative bodies to endeavour to force an individual to "ſubſcribe a declaration" contrary to his conſcience and avowed ſentiments; nor is there any inſinuation in that piece, that an attempt was made to force me to ſign the aſſociation or journal of the Continental Congreſs, which, you ſay, I muſt have informed them of; nor do the committee of Paſquotank inſiſt, that I "offered to ſubſcribe the journal of the Continental Congreſs," as you have falſely declared in the 4th paragraph of your ſtrictures. They have ſaid, that you confeſſed to them on the 19th of April, that you heard me in the Convention offer "to ſign the aſſociation," and you have given it under your hand to the public on the 15th of May that you "did tell them ſomething to that effect" — If your confeſſion then is the truth, how much more are you to blame, than ſuch members of the convention as were unacquainted with this offer, but if it is a LIE, you are the author of it to the committee. As it was a circumſtance in my favour, not mentioned by the five members, as it came from you, a declared enemy of mine, the committee believed that the force of truth only extorted it from your lips, and publiſhed it to the world as a corroboration of their opinion, that the Convention was too ſevere upon me. — You feel the effects of your confeſſion, you would gladly retract it, you have endeavoured to ſwallow it up, and to give us ſomething elſe in its room: Your attempts however are in vain; but the tortures you now feel, are on account of your detection; contrition for the offence is a ſentiment your breaſt admits not of. Were your genius and abilities equal to the enmity of your diſpoſition, you would avoid ſuch palpable contradictions, but how came they to eſcape the corrector and prefacer of your LAST WORDS, let him be more attentive to your DYING SPEECH, elſe your character will be branded, paſt a poſſibility of redemption, if that is not already the caſe.

Have you read the declaration of the freeholders of Currituck? In what part of it do they ſay, that the whole proceedings of the Convention are tyrannical, and ought to be rejected, on account of that body's attempting to force me to ſign the journal of the Continental Congreſs? theſe aſſertions of yours muſt be owing to ignorance; procure ſome friend, if ſuch you have, to read and explain the matters contained in that publication, that you may get ſome idea of them, before you make any more ſtrictures for the public peruſal.

On the whole then, this equivocal and diſingenuous behaviour, which you exult in having detected, appears to be your own, now expoſed to public view; for after having concurred in declaring on the 6th of April, that I refuſed to ſign the aſſociation with the other members of the Convention, and thereupon withdrew; you next confeſſed, before the committee of Paſquotank, on the 19th of April, that you heard me offer to ſubſcribe the aſſociation in the Convention; on the 15th of May, you unſay all this and tell quite a different ſtory, by ſaying that ſome of the members propoſed, I might ſign the journal of the Continental Congreſs, but that I only ſeemed to agree to it; went with a ſeeming intention to ſign, but all on a ſudden declined and withdrew, and to complete the matter, you very modeſtly requeſt the public to think with you, that this proves me equivocal and diſingenuous. Should "miniſterial vengeance" ſtand in need of "a tool" to ſay and unſay whatever ſuits its purpoſes, you have ſhowed by this ſpecimen, where it may be ſupplied, but you have diſcovered the weakneſs of your head ſo exceeding plainly, that you can never expect to be employed, except in the loweſt department and on the dirtieſt occaſions; you have a talent for abuſe, but it is vulgar abuſe; and ſome of your expreſſions are difficult to be underſtood; "but I will not uſurp all good" from you.

If I dared however to ſoar after your into the regions of ſimile, I would remark that yours of the fly and the web, might be rendered more juſt

by comparing yourſelf to the ſpider; and the fate of your web (in which you have endeavoured to entangle me) of ſtrictures, reſembles the fate of thoſe webs, which are ſome times ſpun by that malevolent and venemous reptile; and, to his great mortification, are torn to pieces by the innocent fly, which he had deſtined for his prey. On ſuch an occaſion, the good natured ſpectator is pleaſed, with the little fly's eſcape from the lurking villainous ſpider, who then retires from public view into his dark and dirty receptacle, to brood over his baſe deſigns, and the humane public will not be ſorry, that your SAN BENITO of tar and feathers, your intended AUTO DA FE, and your ſtrictures deſigned to injure me, have failed of this intended effect.

Notwithſtanding your unremitting endeavours to hurt me, I would not willingly injure you in the ſmalleſt degree. Nothing but the groſſeſt miſrepreſentations of my conduct, in a matter of general concern, could have forced me to this method of ſelf-defence; which, in proportion as I am exculpated from the odium you have endeavoured to affix on my public character, muſt be injurious to yourſelf. Remember that I am not accuſed of violating the aſſociation, that for my actions I acknowledge myſelf accountable to the community, but my opinions are my own; I intruded them not on the public till properly called upon, as the deputy of freemen, to deliberate with others on the meaſures proper to be uſed, for eſtabliſhing and ſecuring our rights and liberties on a ſolid and laſting foundation: on ſuch an occaſion I ſpoke my ſentiments of a particular meaſure; they were offenſive; I was called upon to ſubſcribe a declaration contrary to theſe ſentiments; I refuſed, I withdrew from a body where freedom of ſentiment was diſagreeable to great numbers: on my withdrawing, I was cenſured as an enemy to American liberty; it was done in a heat; it produced no bad conſequences; thoſe, who were warmeſt through an honeſt zeal for liberty, on cool reflection, perhaps thought they had been too ſevere; but you, animated by perſonal pique and reſentment, have embraced the long wiſhed for moment to gratify your revenge; at leaſt you have endeavoured to do it: you have failed, and expoſed yourſelf to contempt and deteſtation. Such men as you, are improper guardians of liberty, ſuch principles as yours, uſed in its defence, deſtroy its very eſſence. — I take my leave of you here, and beg pardon of the public for this intruſion on its patience.

THOMAS MACKNIGHT.

North-Carolina, Belville, 21ſt June, 1775.

To FREDERIC BULL, Eſq; late Lord Mayor, and to the Aldermen and Common Council of the City of LONDON.

"GENTLEMEN,

WE his Majeſty's moſt dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the proteſtant ſettlers in the province of Quebec, are truly warmed with ſentiments of gratitude to you, for that paternal regard which you have lately teſtified towards us, in your addreſs to our moſt gracious ſovereign, previous to the royal aſſent given to the bill, "for the better government of this province."

Words are wanting to expreſs our apprehenſions of the miſchievous conſequences, which muſt attend the operation of this bill.—We will not offer our comments upon the dreadful wound given thereby, to the Britiſh conſtitution; its malignant tendency being ſelf evident; and the numerous inhabitants throughout the immenſe territory of Engliſh America, as well as in Great-Britain, muſt view it with equal aſtoniſhment and horror.

The abolition of the habeas corpus act, which has operated both in criminal and civil caſes, ever ſince our ſettlement here; as alſo of that admirable inſtitution the trial by jury, is a matter of very great moment to all the inhabitants of this extenſive province: But the power veſted in a legiſlative council (to be appointed by his Majeſty, and removable at pleaſure, of impriſoning our perſons, of fining indefinitely, and of altering the criminal law, ſo much admired and deſervedly praiſed, for its certainty and lenity, is far more alarming to us, as we apprehend that it puts our perſons in imminent danger; and that it muſt inevitably check, if not effectually blaſt the growing branches of our commerce, which did not flouriſh in this province before the Engliſh ſettled in it; and now ſtands in need of protection and ſupport from known and ſettled laws, to guard and to defend our lives and properties.

The want of a legal proviſion for the free exerciſe of the proteſtant religion, and the eſtabliſhment of popery in its ſtead, is exceedingly painful to us, and fills us with melancholy apprehenſions, and jealous fears of evils flowing from that corrupted fountain; therefore we humbly conceive this to be an object moſt worthy the attention of the Britiſh legiſlature.

We are confident that the bill would not have paſſed the honourable Houſe of Commons, if a majority of the members had happened to have been in town; for we are informed that about eighty members only were preſent: if it be ſo, it cannot fairly be preſumed to have been the ſenſe of a majority of the Commons of Great-Britain. — We therefore entertain very ſanguine hopes that at the next ſeſſion of that honourable Houſe our miſerable ſtate will be minutely enquired into, and that the ſaid act will be totally repealed, or at leaſt amended, ſo that it may agree and harmonize, with the fundamental principles of the Britiſh conſtitution; and that the law whereby we are to be governed in future, may afford protection and ſecurity to our perſons and properties.

We take the liberty humbly to entreat you to recommend to the worthy repreſentatives of the city of London, to exert their moſt ſtrenuous endeavours, in the honourable Houſe of Commons, in ſupport of the civil and religious rights of no inconſiderable number of honeſt, enterpriſing ſubjects, who have been induced by the royal proclamation, to ſettle in this diſtant land, and to riſk their lives and fortunes, under the moſt ſolemn promiſe of enjoying in it, the benefit of the laws of the realm of England; and of having in due time, a Provincial Aſſembly with the powers of legiſlation.

We have the honour to ſubſcribe ourſelves, in the name of all the proteſtant ſettlers in Canada, with all gratitude and reſpect, Gentlemen your moſt Obedient and very Humble Servants."

A Committee choſen by all the proteſtant ſettlers in Canada.

CAMBRIDGE JUNE 8.

TUESDAY laſt being the day agreed on for the exchange of priſoners, between 12 and 1 o'clock, Dr. Warren and Brigadier General Putnam, in a phæton, together with Major Dunbar, and Lieutenant Hamilton of the 64th on horſe-back; Lieutenant Potter of the marines, in a chaiſe; John Hilton of the 47th; Alexander Campbell of the 4th; John Tyne, Samuel Marcy, Thomas Parry, and Thomas Sharp, of the marines, wounded men, in two carts; the whole eſcorted by the Weathersfield company, under the command of Capt. Cheſter, entered the town of Charleſtown, and marching ſlowly through it, halted at the ferry, where, upon a ſignal being given, Major Moncrief landed from the Lively, in order to receive the priſoners, and ſee his old friend, General Putnam: Their meeting was truly cordial and affectionate. The wounded privates were ſoon ſent on board the Lively; but Major Moncrief and the other officers, returned with General Putnam and Dr. Warren, to the Houſe of Dr. Foſter, where an entertainment was provided for them. About 3 o'clock a ſignal was made by the Lively, that they were ready to deliver up our priſoners; upon which General Putnam and Major Moncrief went to the ferry, where they received Meſſ. John Peck, James Hewes, James Brewer, and Daniel Preſton, of Boſton; Meſſ. Samuel Froth and Seth Ruſſel, of Cambridge; Mr. Joſeph Bell, of Danvers; Mr. Elijah Seavan, of Roxbury; and Cæſar Auguſtus, a Negro ſervant to Mr. Tileſton, of Dorcheſter; who were conducted to the Houſe of Capt. Foſter, and there refreſhed; after which the General and Major returned to their company, and ſpent an hour or two in a very agreeable manner. Between 5 and 6 o'clock Major Moncrief, with the officers that had been delivered to him, were conducted to the ferry, where the Lively's barge received them; after which General Putnam, with the priſoners who had been delivered to him, &c. returned to Cambridge, eſcorted in the ſame manner as before. The whole was conducted with the utmoſt decency and good humour, and the Weathersfield company did honour to themſelves, their officers, and their country. The regular officers expreſſed themſelves as highly pleaſed; thoſe who had been priſoners politely acknowledged the genteel, kind treatment they had received from their captors; the privates, who were all wounded men expreſſed in the ſtrongeſt terms, their grateful ſenſe of the tenderneſs which had been ſhewn them in their miſerable ſituation; ſome of them could do it only by their tears. It would have been to the honour of the Britiſh arms, if the priſoners taken from us could with juſtice have made the ſame acknowledgement. It cannot be ſuppoſed that any officers of rank, or common humanity, were knowing to the repeated inſults that were offered them; but it may not be amiſs to hint to the upſtarts concerned, two truths, of which they ſeem to be totally ignorant, viz. that compaſſion is as eſſential a part of the character of a truly brave man as daring; and that inſult offered to a perſon entirely in the power of the inſulter, ſmells as ſtrong of cowardice as it does of cruelty.

On Friday night laſt the provincial troops made another acquiſition of about 800 ſheep and lambs from off Deer iſland, together with a number of cattle. Major Creaton, who commanded this party, alſo took a barge belonging to one of the men of war, together with 4 or 5 priſoners.

By his Excellency, the Hon. THOMAS GAGE, Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over his Majeſty's province of Maſſachuſetts-Bay, and Vice Admiral of the ſame.

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the infatuated multitudes, who have long ſuffered themſelves to be conducted by well known incendiaries and traitors, in a fatal progreſſion of crimes againſt the conſtitutional authority of the State, have at length proceeded to avowed rebellion; and the good effects which were expected to ariſe from the patience and lenity of the King's government, have been often fruſtrated, and are now rendered hopeleſs, by the influence of the ſame evil counſels; it only remains for thoſe who are entruſted with ſupreme rule, as well for the puniſhment of the guilty, as the protection of the well-affected, to prove they do not bear the ſword in vain.

The infringements which have been committed upon the moſt ſacred rights of the Crown and people of Great-Britain, are too many to enumerate on one ſide, and are all too atrocious to be palliated on the other. All unprejudiced people who have been witneſſes of the late tranſactions, in this and the neighbouring provinces, will find upon a tranſient review, marks of premeditation and conſpiracy that would juſtify the fullneſs of chaſtiſement: And even thoſe who are leaſt acquainted with facts cannot fail to receive a juſt impreſſion of their enormity, in proportion as they diſcover the arts and aſſiduity by which they have been falſified or concealed. The authors of the preſent unnatural revolt never daring to truſt their cauſe or their actions, to the judgement of an impartial public, or even to the diſpaſſionate reflexion of their followers, have uniformly placed their chief confidence in the ſuppreſſion of truth: And while indefatigable and ſhameleſs pains have been taken to obſtruct every appeal to the real intereſt of the people of America; the groſſeſt forgeries, calumnies and abſurdities that ever inſulted human underſtanding, have been impoſed on their credulity. The preſs, that diſtinguiſhed appendage of public liberty, and when fairly and impartially employed its beſt ſupport, has been invariably proſtituted to the moſt contrary purpoſes; the animated language of ancient and virtuous times, calculated to vindicate and promote the juſt rights, and intereſt of mankind, hath been applied to countenance the moſt abandoned violation of thoſe ſacred bleſſings; and not only from the flagitious prints, but from the popular harangues of the times, men have been taught to depend upon activity in treaſon, for the ſecurity of their perſons and properties; till, to complete the horrid profanation of terms, and of ideas, the name of God, has been introduced into the pulpits to excite and juſtify devaſtation and maſſacre.

The minds of men having been thus gradually prepared for the worſt extremities, a number of armed perſons, to the amount of many thouſands, aſſembled on the 19th of April laſt, and from behind walls and lurking holes, attacked a detatchment of the King's troops who not expecting ſo conſumate an act of frenzy, unprepared for vengeance, and willing to decline it, made uſe of their arms only in their own defence. Since that period the rebels, deriving confidence from impunity, have added inſult to outrage; have repeatedly fired upon the King's ſhips and ſubjects, with cannon and ſmall arms, have poſſeſſed the roads, and other communications by which the town of Boſton was ſupplied with proviſions; and with a prepoſterous parade of military arrangements, they affected to hold the army beſieged; while part of their body make daily and indiſcriminate invaſions upon private property, and with a wantonneſs of cruelty ever incident to lawleſs tumult, carry depredations and diſtreſs wherever they turn their ſteps. The actions of the 19th of April are of ſuch notoriety, as muſt baffle all attempts to contradict them, and the flames of buildings and other property from the iſlands, and adjacent country, for ſome weeks paſt ſpread melancholy confirmation of the ſubſequent aſſertions.

In this exigency of complicated calamities, I avail myſelf of the laſt effort within the bounds of my duty, to ſpare the effuſion of blood; to offer, and I do hereby, in his Majeſty's name, offer and promiſe his moſt gracious pardon to all perſons who ſhall forthwith lay down their arms, and return to the duties of peaceable ſubjects, excepting only from the benefit of ſuch pardon SAMUEL ADAMS and JOHN HANCOCK, whoſe offences are of too flagitious a nature to admit of any other conſideration than that of condign puniſhment.

And to the end that no perſon within the limits of this proffered mercy, may plead ignorance of the conſequences of refuſing it, I, by theſe preſents, proclaim not only the perſons above named and excepted, but alſo all their adherents, aſſociates and abettors, meaning to comprehend in thoſe terms, all and every perſon, and perſons, of what claſs, denomination or deſcription ſoever, who have appeared in arms againſt the King's government and ſhall not lay down the ſame as afore-mentioned; and likewiſe all ſuch as ſhall ſo take arms after the date hereof, or who ſhall in any wiſe protect or conceal ſuch offenders, or aſſiſt them with money, proviſion, cattle, arms, ammunition, carriages, or any other neceſſaries for ſubſiſtance or offence; or ſhall hold ſecret correſpondence with them by letter, meſſage, ſignal, or otherwiſe, to be rebels and traitors, and as ſuch to be treated.

AND WHEREAS during the continuance of the preſent unnatural rebellion, juſtice cannot be adminiſtered by the common law of the land, the courſe whereof has for a long time paſt, been violently impeded, and wholly interrupted; from whence reſults a neceſſity for uſing and exerciſing the Law Martial; I have therefore thought fit, by the authority veſted in me, by the royal charter of this province, to publiſh, and I do hereby publiſh, proclaim and order the uſe and exerciſe of the Law Martial, within and throughout this province, for ſo long time as the preſent unhappy occaſion ſhall neceſſarily require; whereof all perſons are hereby required to take notice, and govern themſelves, as well to maintain order and regularity among the peaceable inhabitants of this province, as to reſiſt or encounter and ſubdue the rebels and traitors above-deſcribed, by ſuch as ſhall be called upon for thoſe purpoſes.

To theſe inevitable, but I truſt ſalutary meaſures, it is a far more pleaſing part of duty, to add the aſſurances of protection and ſupport to all, who, in ſo trying a criſis, ſhall manifeſt their allegiance to the King, and affection to the parent ſtate. So that ſuch perſons as may have been intimidated to quit their habitations in the courſe of this alarm, may return to their reſpective callings and profeſſions; and may ſtand diſtinct and ſeperate from the parricides of the conſtitution, till GOD in his mercy ſhall reſtore to his creatures in this diſtracted land, that ſyſtem of happineſs from which they have been ſeduced, the religion of peace and liberty, founded upon law.

GIVEN at Boſton, this 12th day of June, in the 15th year of the reign of his Majeſty GEORGE the Third, by the Grace of GOD, of Great-Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c. Annoque Domini, 1775. THOMAS GAGE.

By His Excellency's Command,

THO'S FLUCKER, Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE KING

PHILADELPHIA, JUNE 17.

In CONGRESS, June 12, 1775.

AS the great Governor of the world, by his ſupreme and univerſal providence, not only conducts the courſe of nature with unerring wiſdom and rectitude, but frequently influences the minds of men to ſerve the wiſe and gracious purpoſes of his providential government; and it being at all times our indiſpenſible duty devoutly to acknowledge his ſuperintending providence, eſpecially in times of impending danger and public calamity, to reverence and adore his immutable juſtice, as well as to emplore his merciful interpoſition for our deliverance:

This Congreſs therefore, conſidering the preſent critical, alarming and calamitous ſtate of theſe Colonies, do earneſtly recommend, that Thurſday the 20th day of July next, be obſerved by all the inhabitants of the Engliſh Colonies on this continent, as a day of public humiliation, faſting and prayer, that we may with united hearts and voices unfeignedly confeſs and deplore our many ſins, and offer up our joint ſupplications to the all wiſe, omnipotent and merciful diſpoſer of all events, humbly beſeeching him to forgive our iniquities, to remove our preſent calamities, to avert thoſe deſolating judgements with which we are threatened, and to bleſs our rightful Sovereign King GEORGE the Third, and inſpire him with wiſdom to diſcern and purſue the true intereſt of all his ſubjects, that a ſpeedy end may be put to the civil diſcord between Great-Britain and the American Colonies, without further effuſion of blood, and that the Britiſh nation may be influenced to regard the things that belong to her peace, before they are hid from her eyes; that theſe Colonies may be ever under the care and protection of a kind providence, and be proſpered in all their intereſts; that the divine bleſſing may deſcend and reſt upon all our civil rulers, and upon the repreſentatives of the people in their ſeveral Aſſemblies and Conventions, that they may be directed to wiſe and effectual meaſures for preſerving the union, and ſecuring the juſt rights and privileges of the Colonies; that virtue and true religion may revive and flouriſh throughout our land; and that America may ſoon behold a gracious interpoſition of Heaven for the redreſs of her many grievances, the reſtoration of her invaded rights, a reconciliation with the parent ſtate, on terms conſtitutional and honourable to both; and that her civil and religious privileges may be ſecured to the lateſt poſterity: And it is recommended to the chriſtians of all denominations to aſſemble for public worſhip, and to abſtain from ſervile labour and recreations on ſaid day.

By order of the Congreſs,

JOHN HANCOCK, Preſident.

A true Copy, CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

To the oppreſſed INHABITANTS of CANADA.

FRIENDS and COUNTRYMEN,

ALARMED by the deſigns of an arbitrary miniſtry to extirpate the rights and liberties of all America, a ſenſe of common danger conſpired with the dictates of humanity in urging us to call your attention, by our late addreſs, to this very important object.

Since the concluſion of the late war, we have been happy in conſidering you as fellow-ſufferers with us. As we were both intitled by the bounty of an indulgent Creator to freedom, and being both devoted by the cruel edicts of a deſpotic adminiſtra-

tion to common ruin, we perceived the fate of the proteſtant and catholic Colonies to be ſtrongly linked together, and therefore invited you to join with us in reſolving to be free, in rejecting with diſdain the fetters of ſlavery, however artfully poliſhed.

We moſt ſincerely condole with you on the arrival of that day, in the courſe of which the Sun could not ſhine on a ſingle freeman in your extenſive dominion. Be aſſured that your unmerited degradation has engaged the moſt unfeigned pity of your Siſter Colonies; and we flatter ourſelves you will not, by tamely bearing the yoke, ſuffer that pity to be ſupplanted by contempt.

When hardy attempts are made, to deprive men of rights beſtowed by the Almighty,— when avenues are cut through the moſt ſolemn compacts for the admiſſion of deſpotiſm,—when the plighted faith of government ceaſes to give ſecurity to loyal and dutiful ſubjects,—and when the inſidious ſtratagems and manœuvres of peace, become more terrible than the moſt ſanguine operations of war,—it is high time for them to aſſert thoſe rights, and with honeſt indignation oppoſe the torrent of oppreſſion ruſhing in upon them.

By the introduction of your preſent form of government, or rather form of tyranny, you and your wives and your children are made ſlaves. You have nothing that you can call your own, and all the fruits of your labour and induſtry may be taken from you, whenever an avaricious Governor and a rapacious Council may incline to demand them. You are liable, by their edicts, to be tranſported into foreign countries, to fight battles in which you have no intereſt, and to ſpill your blood in conflicts, from which neither honour nor emolument can be derived; nay, the enjoyment of your very religion, on the preſent ſyſtem, depends on a legiſlature, in which you have no ſhare, and over which you have no controul, and your Prieſts are expoſed to expulſion, baniſhment and ruin, whenever their wealth and poſſeſſions furniſh ſufficient temptation. They cannot be ſure that a virtuous Prince can always fill the throne; and ſhould a wicked or a careleſs King concur with a wicked miniſtry in extracting the treaſure and ſtrength of your country, it is impoſſible to conceive to what extremes of wretchedneſs you may, under the preſent eſtabliſhment, be reduced.

We are informed you have already been called upon to waſte your lives in a conteſt with us; ſhould you, by a compliance in this inſtance, aſſent to your new eſtabliſhment, and a war break out with France, your wealth and your ſons may be ſent to periſh in expeditions againſt their Iſlands in the Weſt-Indies.

It cannot be preſumed that theſe conſiderations will have no weight with you, or that you are ſo loſt to all ſenſe of honour. We can never believe that the preſent race of Canadians are ſo degenerated as to poſſeſs neither the ſpirit, the gallantry, or the courage of their anceſtors. You certainly will not permit the infamy and diſgrace of ſuch puſillanimity to reſt on your heads, and the conſequences of it on your children forever.

We for our part are determined to live free, or not at all, and are reſolved that poſterity ſhall never reproach us with having brought ſlaves into the world.

Permit us again to repeat that we are your friends, not your enemies; and be not impoſed upon by thoſe who may endeavour to create animoſities. The taking the fort and warlike ſtores at Ticonderoga and Crown-point, and the armed veſſels on the lake, was dictated by the great law of ſelf-preſervation; they were intended to annoy us, and to cut off that friendly intercourſe and communication which has hitherto ſubſiſted between you and us: We hope it has given you no uneaſineſs, and you may rely on our aſſurances, that theſe colonies will purſue no meaſures whatever, but ſuch as friendſhip and a regard for our mutual ſafety and intereſt may ſuggeſt.

As our concern for your welfare entitles us to your friendſhip, we preſume you will not by doing us injury, reduce us to the diſagreeable neceſſity of treating you as enemies.

We yet entertain hopes of your uniting with us in the defence of our common liberty, and there is yet reaſon to believe that ſhould we join in imploring the attention of our Sovereign to the unmerited and unparalleled oppreſſions of his American ſubjects, he will at length be undeceived, and forbid a licentious Miniſtry to riot in the ruins of the rights of mankind.

A true Copy from the Minutes,

CHARLES THOMSON, Secretary.

By an expreſs which arrived here on Saturday evening we have the following account of a Battle at Charleſtown, on Saturday the 17th of June, inſt.

ON Friday night, the 16th inſt. fifteen hundred of the Provincials went to Bunker's Hill, in order to intrench there, and continued till Saturday, 10 o'clock, when two thouſand regulars marched out of Boſton, landed in Charleſtown, and plundering it of all its valuable effects ſet fire to it in ten different places at once; then dividing their army, part of it marched up in the front of the provincial intrenchment and began to attack the provincials at long ſhot; the other part of their army marched round the town of Charleſtown under cover of the ſmoke occaſioned by the fire of the town. The provincial centries diſcovered the regulars marching upon their left wing. Upon notice of this given by the centry to the Connecticut forces poſted on that wing, Capt. Nolton, of Aſhford, with 400 of ſaid forces, immediately repaired to, and pulled up a poſt and rail fence, and carrying the poſt and rails to another fence, put them together for a breaſt-work. Capt. Nolton gave orders to the men not to fire until the enemy were got within fifteen rods, and then not till the word was given. At the word's being given the enemy fell ſurpriſingly; it was thought by ſpectators who ſtood at a diſtance that our men did great execution.

The action continued about two hours, when the regulars on the right wing were put into confuſion and gave way;—the Connecticut troops cloſely purſued them, and were on the point of puſhing their bayonets, when orders were received from General Pomeroy, for thoſe who had been in action for two hours to fall back, and their places to be ſupplied by freſh troops.—Theſe orders being miſtaken for a direction to retreat, our troops on the right wing began a general retreat, which was handed to the left, the principal place of action, where Captains Nolton, Cheſter, Clark and Putnam, had forced the enemy to give way, and were before them for ſome conſiderable diſtance, and being warmly purſuing the enemy, were, with difficulty perſuaded to retire; but the right wing by miſtaking the orders, having already retreated, the left to avoid being encircled, were obliged to retreat alſo with the main body. They retreated with precipitation acroſs the cauſeway to Winter's Hill, in which they were expoſed to the fire of the enemy from their ſhipping and floating batteries.—We ſuſtained our principal loſs in paſſing the cauſeway. The enemy purſued our troops to Winter's Hill, where the provincials being reinforced by General Putnam, renewed the battle with great ſpirit, repulſed the enemy with great ſlaughter, and purſued them till they got under cover of their cannon from the ſhipping. When the enemy returned to Bunker's Hill, and the provincials to Winter's Hill where, after entrenching and erecting batteries, they on Monday began to fire upon the regulars on Bunker's Hill, and on the ſhips and floating batteries in the harbour, when the expreſs came away. The number of provincials killed is between 40 and 70; 140 are wounded. Of the Connecticut troops, 16 were killed:—No officer among them was either killed or wounded, excepting Lieutenant Groſvenor, who was wounded in the hand. A Colonel, or Lieutenant Colonel of the New-Hampſhire forces, is among the dead. It is alſo ſaid that Dr. Warren is undoubtedly among the ſlain.

The provincials loſt three iron ſix pounders, ſome intrenching tools, and a few knapſacks.

The number of regulars which firſt attacked the provincials on Bunker's Hill was not leſs than 2000. The number of the provincials was only 1500, who it is ſuppoſed would ſoon have gained a complete victory had it not been for the unhappy miſtake already mentioned. The regulars were afterwards reinforced with a thouſand men. It is uncertain how great a number of regulars were killed or wounded, but it was ſuppoſed by ſpectators who ſaw the whole action, that there could not be leſs than 4 or 500 killed. Mr. Gardner, who got out of Boſton on Sunday evening, ſays, that there were 500 wounded men brought into that place the morning before he came out.

This account was taken from Capt. Elijah Hide, of Lebanon, who was a ſpectator on Winter's Hill, during the whole action.

NORFOLK, JULY 5, 1775.

LAST Thurſday morning ſailed from York town his Majeſty's ſhip Fowey, and the Magdalen ſchooner; which laſt, we are informed, proceeds to England immediately, with Lady DUNMORE, and the reſt of the Governour's family, attended by his Lordſhip's chaplain, the Reverend Mr. GWATKIN. The FOWEY, returned to York laſt Saturday.

On Wedneſday laſt the ſhip Johnſon, belonging to Mr. Gildart of Liverpool, and loaded by Meſſrs. Aſhtons was ſpoke with at the Capes, by ſome perſons employed by the light houſe company; ſhe had come in the Sunday before and went up the bay, but hearing that ſhe would not be ſuffered to land any of her cargo, but might probably meet with a diſagreeable reception, ſhe had put about and was then following the Magdalen armed ſchooner out to ſea; ſhe appeared very deep in the water, and the Captain of her ſaid, there were great commotions in England; much greater than he had ever known in any time of war.

As there is reaſon to expect the ſpeedy arrival of the others laden with goods from Great-Britain, a careful watch ſhould be kept that they may meet with their deſerts.

A brig lately loaded by Gibſon, Donaldſon and Hamilton of Suffolk with a large quantity of proviſions, was lately ſeized by ſome of the tenders, and taken to Boſton for the ſupply of the navy and army.

The night after the Houſe of Burgeſſes adjourned, all the arms, &c. were taken out of the Palace and carried off by perſons unknown. They were ſoon after found lodged in the magazine, from whence they are lent out upon proper receipts, to ſuch of the counties as ſtand in need of them.

The Revd. Doctor Cooper, preſident of the college of New-York, and the Revd. Dr. Chandler of Elizabeth town, New-Jerſey, generally believed to be the authors of ſeveral publications printed by Rivington againſt the rights of America, ſailed, the laſt of May, as did alſo the Revd. Mr. Cook, in the Exeter, for Briſtol, after having taken ſhelter, for two weeks from the reſentment of the people, on board the King-fiſher ſloop of war.

The Aſia man of war of 64 guns, after having taken on board the remainder of the 26th regiment quartered at New-York lately ſailed for Boſton.

Col. Skeen, Governor of Ticonderoga and Crown-point, owner of the ſchooner taken, on lake Champlain, whoſe ſon was there and is now made priſoner in Connecticut, is ſtill kept at Philadelphia upon his parole of honor to keep within 8 miles of the city between Delaware and Skuylkill, and not to correſpond with any perſon on political ſubjects. This gentleman, as we are informed from Philadelphia, concealed the circumſtance of his being an officer from the Captain with whom he came paſſenger. But a few days before they made the capes of Delaware, they ſpoke a New-England veſſel, who informed them of the taking of Ticonderoga. The Col. inſtantly declared he would march with 5000 men from Canada and retake it, and manifeſted ſuch warmth on the occaſion that the Captain of the ſhip diſcovered the quality of his paſſenger, and after reprimanding him for the impoſition he had practiſed upon him, thought it prudent upon his arrival at Philadelphia to deliver him up. He had taken care however to deſtroy his diſpatches, and now finds how ineffectual is his commiſſion to tamper with the members of the Congreſs, in the way that an immaculate Miniſtry procure the ſanction of an immaculate Parliament.

It is wiſely directed by the Congreſs, we hear, to act entirely upon the defenſive as the exertions of Great-Britain in ſo ruinous a war muſt ſoon open her eyes; 10000 men are to be kept near Boſton, and 5000 at New-York to be drafted from the colonies and the expences paid by the whole.

From Princeſs Anne we hear, that on the eaſtern ſhore of that county, lately drifted there ſeveral parts of a wreck, quantities of hay, a drummer's uniform and ſome other military habits, that render it probable, that one of the tranſports has been loſt near that ſhore.

The following letter came to town yeſterday, dated Norwich, in Connecticut June 19, 1775.

"DEAR SIR,

I UNDERSTAND by Mr. David Trumbull, that by an expreſs from Cambridge, his honour our Governor has advice, that on our people's attempting to take poſſeſſion of Bunkers hill and Dorceſter point, they were attacked by the regulars, ſhipping, &c. five men of war hauled up at Charleſtown, covered the landing of a body of men who drove our people from Bunker's hill; that three Colonels in our ſervice are wounded, (Colonel Gardiner mortally;) how many are ſlain on either ſide is uncertain; This happened on Saturday about noon. At Charleſtown, when the poſt came away, our people kept their ground, and had made a ſtand. How they fared at Dorceſter I do not hear: General Putnam was ſafe when the expreſs ſet out Preparations were making for a general attack; Colonel Tyler muſt be on his march as ſoon as poſſible, without confuſion. I ſhall procure teams as faſt as I can, and have them ready to take in his baggage. Col. Jabez Huntington deſires I might diſpatch an expreſs immediately, to have the troops forwarded; he ſent orders in writing yeſterday.

I am, SIR, your's,

CHRISTOPHER LIFFINGWELL."

"To Thomas Mumford, Eſquire"

The commiſſion from the Congreſs to General Waſhington, we are informed, is addreſſed in theſe words, "To our beloved brother GEORGE WASHINGTON, Eſq; CAPTAIN GENERAL and COMMANDER in CHIEF of ALL the FORCES of the UNITED COLONIES." It is ſaid General Lee is the third in command, and that Samuel Griffin Eſq; lately of this colony is appointed his aid de camp; Major Thomas Mifflin, a delegate in the Congreſs for Pennſylvania is aid de camp to General WASHINGTON. The General ſet out on the 18th of laſt month from Philadelphia to take the command of the Grand American Army near Boſton. He is accompanied by General Lee, and was attended a few miles from Philadelphia by the troop of light horſe, and by all the officers of the city militia on horſe back, who parted with our celebrated commander, with the moſt ardent wiſhes for his ſucceſs.

Yeſterday afternoon two men bathing at Bailey's point, were unfortunately drowned. The frequency of the like accident at that point, ſhould make people who cannot ſwim exceeding cautious, as the channel there deepens very ſuddenly.

CUSTOM HOUSE, HAMPTON, Entered in.

Brig Betſey and Molly, Thomas Calvert, from St. Euſtatia. Brig Helena, Robert Stewart, from Liſbon. Sloop Polly, Charles Elliot, and Schooner Sally, Benjamin Newton, from New Providence. Sloop Anne, Thomas Wiſwell, from Piſcataqua.

CLEARED OUTWARDS.

Brig Beith, John Morris, for Grenades. Snow Portſmouth, William Worth, for Cadiz. Schooner Congreſs, William Woolcutt, for Jamaica. Schooner Nancy, John Rogers, and Schooner Commerce, William Garton, for Antigua. Sloop Sally, Nathaniel Butterfield, for New-Providence. Sloop Cedar, Rothery, for Philadelphia. Sloop Jane, John Stowe, for Bermuda. Sloop Betſey, John Avery, for Antigua. Ship Mercury, David Conkie, for London.

NORFOLK, July 3, 1775.

For CHARTER to GREAT-BRITAIN or the WEST-INDIES,

A NEW BRIGANTINE,

THAT will carry about 7000 Buſhels, and will be ready to receive a Cargo in 14 Days.

For TERMS apply to

57 JOHN SHEDDEN & Co.

NORFOLK, July 3, 1775.

JOHN CONNOR, STAYMAKER,

Has juſt opened Shop at M. BLEWS's in Church-Street, Norfolk.

WHERE he purpoſes carrying on the STAYMAKING buſineſs in all its branches: Ladies who may be pleaſed to honour him with their commands may depend on having them executed in the neateſt and moſt expeditious manner, and on the moſt reaſonable terms. He hopes by his aſſiduity and diligence to merit their favor, which ſhall be his conſtant ſtudy. (7 57 J. C.

NORFOLK July 3, 1775.

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber in April laſt, an indented Iriſh ſervant man named JAMES WELSH, by trade a SHOEMAKER, about 5 feet 9 or 10 inches high, of a ſlim make and pale complexion, has ſhort brown hair over which he ſometimes wears a wig; he is much addicted to liquor, and when drunk is very quarrelſome: Had on when he went off a brown cloth coat, a red double breaſted waiſtcoat. From ſeveral circumſtances the ſubſcriber has reaſon to believe he is gone towards North-Carolina, having ſome acquaintances about the Plank bridge and Edenton.

(3) 57 W. FORSYTH.

NORTHAMPTON county, Eaſtern ſhore, July 3, 1775.

FIVE POUNDS REWARD.

RUN away from the ſubſcriber, living in Northampton county, on Sunday the 25th of June, a negro lad named LADUS, a down looking fellow about 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high: Had on an oznabrig ſhirt and trowſers, a pair of claret coloured knit breeches and a fine hat much worn. 'Tis imagined he went off in a canoe (25 feet long and freſh tarred) with a Negro belonging to Mr. John Blair named SOLOMON; a large ſtout fellow, about 5 feet 12 inches high, Whoever takes up ſaid fellow and ſecures him ſo that the ſubſcriber may get him again ſhall receive if taken in the colony FORTY SHILLINGS, and if out of the colony the above reward.

GEORGE DEWEY.

*** All maſters of veſſels and others are forbid carrying him off at their peril. (3) 57

JUNE 22.

THE SCHOONER PEGGY,

HAVING excellent accommodation for 10 or 12 paſſengers, will conſtantly ſail as a PACKET BOAT from RICHMOND, to NORFOLK, and will return generally in 10 days; thoſe who live up the country and have buſineſs at NORFOLK, will find it much the cheapeſt and moſt expeditious method to leave their horſes at RICHMOND and proceed in the Packet, and thoſe who live at NORFOLK and have buſineſs up James River will alſo find the benefit of travelling this way. She will take in paſſengers for Burwell's ferry, at 7s. 6d. (the uſual price;) to City Point, 12s. 6d; to Warwick, Mancheſter and Richmond, 15s; and the ſame to Norfolk; ſhe will take in freight at the uſual price. Thoſe who favour me with their paſſage and commands will oblige their humble ſervant.

ZACHARIAH ROWLAND.

NORFOLK, MAY 30, 1775.

For LIVERPOOL, (to ſail in a Month)

THE SHIP BRILLIANT,

WILLIAM PRIESTMAN,

MASTER;

CAN take in 200 Hhds of Tobacco on Freight with liberty of conſignment.———For terms apply to JOHN LAWRENCE & Co.

Who have alſo for charter a ſhip of 400 Hogſheads, and a brig of 8000 Buſhels burthen.

NORFOLK, June 14, 1775.

RUN AWAY

LAST night from on board the Snow St, Bees, capt. Benjamin Jackſon, an apprentice lad, named ANDREW LENNON, about nineteen years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, wears his own light coloured hair, ſomewhat curl'd.—This is therefore to forwarn any perſon from harbouring him, and maſters of veſſels from employing him or carrying him out of the country.

HENRY FLEMING.

WILLIAMSBURG,

SATURDAY, June 24. The Governor having been made acquainted with the ſeveral bills and reſolves that were ready for his aſſent, his Excellency ſignified his ſentiments thereupon by the following meſſage, which arrived at the Capitol about two o'clock.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes.

THE bill for appointing commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of the militia lately drawn out into actual ſervice, and for making proviſion to pay the ſame, inaſmuch as it impoſes duties upon ſlaves imported, I cannot aſſent to; which, by the royal diſallowance of an act of Aſſembly for that purpoſe, paſſed in the 10th year of his preſent Majeſty's reign, you muſt have been ſenſible of: And as the bill has no ſuſpending clauſe, though I have made it my buſineſs to intimate, by ſeveral of your members, to the Houſe, that, without ſuch a clauſe, I could not paſs an act for emitting paper money, the miſcarriage of a bill I had very much at heart cannot be attributed to me; and if ſtill thoſe objections can be removed, I ſhould be happy to concur in an act for the rewarding of the brave people who are the particular object of it, without delay. If not, all I can do is to tranſmit the bill to his Majeſty, and to deſire leave to aſſent to it; though, in regard of the duty upon ſlaves, I ſhould not, I think, obtain it.

I ſee no objections to any other of your bills or reſolves, and I am therefore ready to give my aſſent to them, whenever the Houſe deſires.

If you have any other bills ready, I muſt deſire they may be ſent to me in like manner, that the whole may be paſſed together; and I muſt beg that your clerk may be ordered to lay before me a copy of the journals of the Houſe, before the time fixed for paſſing the bills.

The Houſe after taking the ſaid meſſage into their conſideration, appointed a committee to draw up an addreſs to the Governor in anſwer thereto; which after being prepared, read and agreed to, was ordered to be preſented to his Excellency this morning, on board the Fowey, by the Attorney General and Col. Andrew Lewis, and is as follows:

The Addreſs of the HOUSE OF BURGESSES.

My LORD,

WE his Majeſty's dutiful and loyal ſubjects, the Burgeſſes of Virginia, cannot ſufficiently expreſs our concern that your Lordſhip ſhould be under any difficulty in giving your aſſent to the bill for appointing commiſſioners to ſettle the accounts of the militia lately drawn out into actual ſervice and for making proviſion to pay the ſame, which hath received the approbation of the other two branches of the legiſlature. We beg leave to remind your Excellency that you particularly recommended thoſe brave people, who are the object of this bill, to our attention. Senſible of their important ſervices, we ſeized, with much pleaſure, the firſt opportunity afforded us of doing juſtice to their ſingular merit.—Upon conſidering the moſt probable ways and means of effecting this deſirable purpoſe, we ſoon found, from the extreme ſcarcity of caſh in the country, that there was no poſſible means of doing it but by a ſpeedy emiſſion of paper money. This opinion has ſince been confirmed, by tranſactions during the preſent meeting of the merchants; which have evinced that the ſcarcity is even greater than we at firſt ſuppoſed. We do not find, my Lord, any thing in this bill which contravenes any law, or royal inſtruction, which hath ever been communicated to us. A ſuſpending clauſe we conceive would defeat the very purpoſe for which the bill was intended; as it would withold that relief ſo immediately neceſſary to the comfort and ſupport of many of our poor inhabitants, who are in the utmoſt diſtreſs for want of it.

In order to ſupport the credit of our paper currency, we thought it incumbent on us to eſtabliſh ſuch funds as would effectually ſecure the redemption of it. In aid of others, we were of opinion that a duty of ten per-cent. on ſlaves would be the leaſt burthenſome to the people. We do not know that ſuch a duty was ever objected to by his Majeſty; on the contrary, we underſtood that a duty not exceeding ten per-cent. was perfectly agreeable to his royal will and pleaſure. The five pounds per poll on ſlaves imported from the Weſt-Indies was intended to prevent the many tricks which had been practiſed in this country to avoid payment of all duties on ſuch ſlaves, and amounts to no more than ten per-cent. valuing them at the moderate average of fifty pounds current money.

We are pleaſed to find your Excellency approves the other bills and reſolves ſubmitted to your inſpection. All others which we propoſe to trouble your Lordſhip with, we have conſented may undergo the like examination, and flatter ourſelves that they will meet with the like approbation. We ſtill hope, my Lord, that, upon reconſidering the matter, you will ſee ſufficient reaſons to alter your firſt opinion reſpecting the militia bill, which we have much at heart, conſidering it of the laſt importance.

We have before, in conjunction with his Majeſty's Council, intimated to your Excellency how very neceſſary a receſs is at this critical ſeaſon, our harveſts demanding our immediate preſence at home. We muſt therefore entreat your Excellency to meet us at the capitol, to-morrow, in order to give your aſſent to ſuch bills and reſolves as are ready to be preſented. We hope your Lordſhip cannot ſtill entertain any groundleſs fears that your perſon can be in the leaſt danger. If it is poſſible that you remain under ſo ſtrange an influence, we pledge our honours, and every thing ſacred, for your ſecurity. Should your Lordſhip decline complying with this juſt requeſt, we hope you will be pleaſed to grant your commiſſion to the Preſident of the Council to give your aſſent to ſuch bills and reſolves as you may approve, and we may preſent to him.

Since it hath been cuſtomary for our Governors to ſignify their pleaſure as to adjournments, we wiſh not to take things out of their old channel. We therefore hope your Excellency will at the ſame time expreſs your approbation that we adjourn ourſelves to ſome convenient day in October next, when our convenience will beſt admit an abſence from our homes, and the ſickly ſeaſon of the year will probably be over.

We do not wiſh to conceal from your Excellency one tittle contained in our journals; but a full and immediate tranſcript of them would require more time than we can poſſibly devote to the public buſineſs at preſent. We muſt obſerve that this demand of us is unuſual; however, we have ordered all ſuch of our proceedings as have been printed to be immediately tranſmitted to your Lordſhip.

The GOVERNOR's Anſwer.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Houſe of Burgeſſes.

AS you have encumbered the bill for the payment of the officers and men, employed upon the Indian expedition, with an impoſition which you knew I could not aſſent to, and omitted a form (in no ways tending to defeat the purpoſe of the bill) which you were told I could not diſpenſe with, the blame of its not paſſing into a law cannot lie upon me; but I muſt adhere to the reaſons I yeſterday ſignified to you on this head.

The well-grounded cauſe I had for believing my perſon not ſafe at Williamſburg has increaſed daily. I cannot therefore meet you at the Capitol, as you entreat; but, this day being too far ſpent, I ſhall be ready to receive the Houſe on Monday, at 12 of the clock, at my preſent reſidence, for the purpoſe of giving my aſſent to ſuch acts as I ſhall approve of.

Although the convenience of the members of the aſſembly will always be a ſtrong motive to determine me as to the time of your meeting or ſeperating, yet it becomes neceſſary (from an expreſſion in your addreſs, that you wiſh not to take things out of their old channel, as if you had ſuch power) to aſſert the right of the crown to adjourn, prorogue, diſſolve, or aſſemble you, as it is thought fit, by the Governor of the colony. I do not mean, however, to oppoſe the requeſt you make of being adjourned.

The Houſe immediately appointed a committee to draw up ſome reſolves in conſequence of the above meſſage, which being propoſed and read, the Houſe unanimouſly agreed thereto, and are as follows.

THE Houſe of Burgeſſes, having taken into their moſt ſerious conſideration the unhappy ſtate of this colony, and conſidering the many obſtructions given, to the due and regular proſecution of the important buſineſs depending before the General Aſſembly, by his Excellency the Governor, in firſt, removing from the Palace on board one of the King's ſhips, whereby a free acceſs to him, and that neceſſary intercourſe between his Lordſhip and the other two branches of the legiſlature, hath been in a great meaſure cut off; conſidering that his Lordſhip hath withſtood the repeated intreaties of the Council and this Houſe, to return to the ſeat of his government, and having this day received ſuch an anſwer from his Lordſhip, as when, compared with his different meſſages and other parts of his conduct, convinces us of his determination not to do any thing, that may be of advantage to this colony, and particlarly to the inhabitants on our frontiers, by his requiring this Houſe to attend him on board the Fowey man of war, in order to preſent ſuch bills as are now ready for his aſſent. We think it a duty highly incumbent on us, for ourſelves and the whole body of our conſtituents, to make the following reſolves, in maintenance of our juſt rights and privileges, and in hopes of removing thoſe prejudices which have already and may be again attempted, to be excited in the breaſt of our moſt gracious Sovereign, and of our fellow-ſubjects in Great-Britain.

Reſolved therefore, that his Lordſhip's meſſage, requiring this houſe to attend him on board one of his Majeſty's ſhips of war, is a high breach of the rights and privileges of this Houſe.

Reſolved, that the unreaſonable delays thrown into the proceedings of this Houſe by the Governor, and his evaſive anſwers to the ſincere and decent addreſſes, of the repreſentatives of the people; give us great reaſon to fear, that a dangerous attack may be meditated, againſt the unhappy people of this colony; it is therefore our opinion, that they prepare for the preſervation of their property and their ineſtimable rights and liberties, with the greateſt care and attention.

Reſolved, that we do and will bear faith and true allegiance to our moſt gracious ſovereign GEORGE the Third, our only lawful and rightful King; that we will, at all times to the utmoſt of our power and at the riſque of our lives and properties, maintain and defend his government in this colony, as founded on the eſtabliſhed laws and principles of the conſtitution.

That it is our moſt earneſt deſire, to preſerve and ſtrengthen thoſe bands of amity with our fellow-ſubjects in Great-Britain, which are ſo very eſſential to the proſperity and happineſs of both countries.

That it is with the deepeſt concern, we find ourſelves deprived of an opportunity, of making immediate proviſion for thoſe gallant officers and ſoldiers, who ſo nobly defended this country againſt the incurſions of the Indians, unleſs we would ſacrifice their own, and the ineſtimable rights and privileges of all other inhabitants in this colony. That as we have already endeavoured to make the moſt ample proviſion for this neceſſary purpoſe, ſo will we gladly ſeize every opportunity afforded us, of doing the utmoſt juſtice to thoſe brave men, and all other public creditors.

The Houſe then adjourned to the ſecond Thurſday in October next.

NORFOLK, June 26, 1775.

ALL perſons indebted to the late concern of WILLIAM DUNCAN & Co. Printers, are requeſted to make immediate payment for Stationary and for the firſt year's Gazette, to the ſubſcriber, who is properly impowered to receive the ſame.

56 JOHN SCHAW.

NORFOLK, June 26, 1775.

JAMAICA RUM

TO BE SOLD

CHEAP for READY MONEY

OR COUNTRY PRODUCE,

(tf) BY ROBERT GRAY, & Co.

NORFOLK, June 26, 1775

TWENTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN out of my houſe, on Tueſday night laſt, about 12 o'clock, a bellied SILVER TANKARD, weight 46 ounces ſeventeen and a half penny weight; Alſo a pint CAN, of the ſame ſhape, and a ſet of table FLINT-GLASS CASTORS with ſilver tops.——Any perſon that will bring them to me ſhall receive the above reward and no queſtions aſked; and on conviction of the THIEF I will give TEN POUNDS, beſides what the law allows.

56 (3) JAMES MARSDEN.

To be ſold at Portſmouth, on Monday the 3d of July, to the higheſt bidder,

AN exceeding fine unimproved WATER LOT in that town, ſituated between thoſe of Capt. GOODRICH and Mrs. BUTLER, on which is a ſmith's ſhop. It is much higher ground than either of them, and has very deep water at the lower end of the lot. Any perſon inclinable to purchaſe will be ſhewn the ſame by applying to the ſubſcriber.——For ſale likewiſe, at private bargain, a fine BRIGANTINE on the ſtocks, built of the beſt white oak, of the following dimenſions, viz. 54 feet keel, 21 feet beam, 10 feet hold, and four feet between decks. She will carry about 7000 buſhels, and may be launched a few months hence. For terms, apply to me at Goſport.

56 A. SPROWLE.

HAMPTON, June 20, 1775.

THE ſubſcriber begs leave to inform the public, that the King's arms tavern of this place, formerly kept by her late huſband, William M'Caa deceaſed, is ſtill continued by her; and farther, to aſſure any Gentleman diſpoſed to favour her with their cuſtom, that they may depend upon her utmoſt endeavours to keep the houſe in the beſt manner.

SARAH M'CAA.

N. B. Proper accommodation will be provided for horſes, and Gentlemen may rely upon their being taken care of.

JUNE 27.

THE ſubſcriber has opened a grammar ſchool, at the ſeat of Anthony Lawſon, Eſq; in Princeſs Anne county, and hopes by a conſtant and diligent attention to thoſe committed to his care, to give ſatisfaction to all who ſhall encourage his undertaking. The price of ſchooling is 5l. per annum, and 20s. at entrance. Boarders are taken in at 17l. 10s, provided they find their own beds, or at 20l. and have every thing found them.

JAMES EMMERSON.

P. S. He alſo teaches the practical branches of the mathematics.

NANSEMOND, July 1, 1775.

For CHARTER to any part of BRITAIN, or the WEST-INDIES.

THE BRIG AMELIA:

For terms apply to Meſs'rs PHRIPP & BOWDOIN, or the ſubſcriber. DAVID KING.

N. B. If the veſſel is not chartered by the 10th inſtant, ſhe will be ſent to NORFOLK with part of a load for the Weſt-Indies, and there be ready for the reception of any goods or freight to either of the Iſlands.

D. K.

NORFOLK: Printed by JOHN H. HOLT & Co. at the Printing-Office near the Market-Houſe; where Subſcriptions for this Paper are taken in at 12s. 6d. per ANNUM: Advertiſements (of a moderate Length) inſerted at 3s. the firſt Week, and 2s. each Week after.——All Kind of Printing-Work executed in the neateſt Manner with Care and Expedition; and BOOKS neatly bound on the moſt reaſonable Terms.